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Subject: The Visit of the Delegation of the Communist Party of Canada (CPC) to Moscow and Kiev in April 1967 (See Report dtd 4 Apr 1967 and pertinent presscuttings from Radianska Ukraina and other pape

Date : 24 July 1967

Following is a summarized appraisal of the visit and its results "internally" spoken of in "progressives" "circles" and mainly based on confidential relations of individual members of the Delegation:

The Delegation returned very much disappointed. In Moscow they were referred to Kiev as the proper place to raise their complaints and demands. Here again, they had to visit 17 various governmental and other institutions and organizations, and the appointments had been in such a way arranged that by overlapping they gave no time for Delegates even to discuss and agree on the topics dealt with inbetween. Furthermore, all the demands, complaints, and statements by the Delegation were treated by the party and government officials with "a flair of frivolity" as exaggerated, overemphasised, not to the point etc.

Only with SHELEST they had a long and substantive talk during which they were told to pay more attention to international problems, and to the Soviet Union as a whole. This was their duty as members of the Communist Party of Canada. ^{On his part} ~~He made some~~ vague promises in general terms but the only tangible result of their demands was his on the spot decision to let them go the countryside if they wanted. Some of the delegates complained that whereas "nationalists" are allowed to visit villages, they (the progressives) are banned from the ~~country~~ countryside. In reply to that SHELEST asked who wanted to visit the countryside and noted their names saying that they could leave to respective villages any time they wanted. But most of the time with SHELEST was spent on his teaching them how they had to behave as members of the CPC, how they should not get involved in matters of no direct concern, also. The Delegates took it as almost an upbraiding and felt very much depressed. This was a clear proof to them that there was little they could do about the present situation in the Ukraine.

The Delegation raised also in Kiev the problem of the arrests and trials of 1965/66. The Soviets refused, however, even to discuss this problem pointing out that it was "very dangerous and intractable".

No one was willing to discuss this question at all.

After the Delegation had left the Soviet Union BAK, Tim remained there, some hoping, "to continue the negotiations". Yet, hardly.

In brief, there is nothing at the present to dispell the Delegates' dismay and disappointment.
